

Scale treatment

What is it?

Scale are tiny parasites that attach themselves to a host plant (typically a hedge or citrus tree). Once settled, the insects cover themselves in wax for protection. This makes them very difficult to get rid of. There are hundreds of different varieties of scale with white wax one of the most common species in Perth.

The female insect can lay over 1000 eggs at a time underneath her protective wax coating. These eggs hatch in summer and send out juvenile insects called 'crawlers'.

Scale insects produce a sweet honeydew substance which is very attractive to ants. The ants feed on the honeydew and in-turn spread the scale around. Generally when you have a bad scale problem, you will also have an ant problem.

Sooty mould is also commonly seen in plants affected by scale. The sooty mould is a fungus that develops in the honeydew and coats the plant with a black film.

The mould prevents sunlight getting to the plant leaf making it unable to photosynthesis properly.

Treatment

Scale needs to be treated during late spring and early summer. This is when the scale is at its most active because the 'crawlers' are on the move. It's important to treat the plant before the crawlers have settled and started producing their waxy coating.

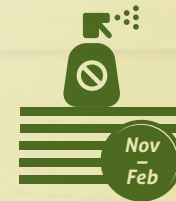
Over the counter products can be ineffective as manufacturers are limited in the active ingredients that can be supplied to home gardeners. Commercial grade products will fix the problem, typically with one application.

Did you know

Treating ants will help prevent the spread of scale. For more information on our pest treatments (including ants, cockroaches and spiders), contact us for a factsheet.



Pest treatments are guaranteed for a minimum 4 months.



The best time to spray is between November and February.



All treatments are safe for your family and pets.



weeding women

To get started, please get in touch!

Call 1800 24 74 84

Email bookings@weedingwomen.com.au